

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 /059 W

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R 050943Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7312

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR AMBASSADOR SNEIDER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: NDP BEGINS ASSEMBLY SIT-IN

REF: SEOUL 8075

1. NDP BEGAN SIT-IN AT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MORNING DECEMBER 5 AS ANNOUNCED PREVIOUS DAY BY PARTY LEADER KIM YONG-SAM (REFTEL). 55 NDP ASSEMBLYMEN (TWO ARE OUT OF TOWN) LED BY KIM BROKE OPEN DOOR TO GAIN ACCESS TO MAIN ASSEMBLY HALL; THEY WERE LATER JOINED BY THREE DUP ASSEMBLYMEN. KIM TOLD REPORTERS THAT SIT-IN WAS DEMONSTRATION OF NDP COMMITMENT TO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

2. DRP AND YUHONGHOE HAVE ISSUED STATEMENTS CONDEMNING NDP ACTION CALLING IT RECKLESS EXTREMIST ACTION, AND SPEAKER CHONG IL-KWON REFUSED TO GRANT PERMISSION FOR OPPOSITION TO USE MAIN ASSEMBLY CHAMBER FOR SIT-IN. HOWEVER, ASSEMBLY STAFF OFFERED NO RESISTANCE TO NDP FORCED ENTRANCE AND IN

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FACT HAVE TURNED ON HEAT AND LIGHTS FOR DEMONSTRATORS.

3. THE ONLY EXCEPTION TO OTHERWISE PEACEFUL SIT-IN WAS BRIEF CONFRONTATION BETWEEN PRESS AND ASSEMBLY GUARDS WHICH ENDED WITH PRESS BEING RELEGATED TO ASSEMBLY CHAMBER 2ND FLOOR OBSERVATION BALCONY. NO OTHER VISITORS ARE ALLOWED IN HALL. RIOT POLICE ARE ON SCENE OUTSIDE ASSEMBLY.

4. NDP ASSEMBLYMEN CAME WITH BEDDING AND CHANGES OF CLOTHES. THEY ALSO HAVE ACCESS TO ASSEMBLY TEA ROOM AND ARE SENDING OUT FOR FOOD. THEY SEEM TO BE SETTling IN FOR AN EXTENDED STAY.
ERICSON

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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